



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Carson City District Office
5665 Morgan Mill Rd
Carson City, NV 89701
<http://www.blm.gov/nv>



In Reply Refer To:
CCDO-CR-16-172
8100 (NVC0200)

CERTIFIED MAIL: 7015 1730 0000 1924 2103 – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Bobby Sanchez, Chairman
Walker River Paiute Tribe
P.O. Box 220
Schurz, NV 89427

Re: Update on the National Priority List (NPL) proposed listing and future remediation efforts of the Anaconda Copper Mine, Lyon County, Nevada.

Dear Chairman Sanchez:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carson City District mailed an initial consultation letter to the Walker River Paiute Tribe (WRPT) regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) intention to propose adding the Anaconda Copper Mine site (the Site) to the National Priorities List (NPL) on July 15, 2016. Addition of the Site to the NPL is a means to ensure appropriate funding is available to complete remediation of the former Arimetco portion of the Site. Additional work is necessary to resolve human health and environmental hazards associated with the Site, including elevated levels of arsenic and uranium in soil and groundwater. This letter provides an update on the ongoing process to list the Site to the NPL.

Activities involved in listing the Site to the NPL and for future remediation efforts require multiple agencies to participate, in part, because the Site is located on both private lands and BLM-managed lands. To better facilitate the working relationships among the State and federal agencies, the BLM, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), and the EPA executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 31, 2016. This MOU outlines subjects such as legal authorities, the agencies' roles and responsibilities, point of contacts, and the dispute resolution process.

On the date of the execution of the MOU, John Ruhs, the BLM Nevada State Director, signed a letter concurring with the NPL listing of the Site, in which he agrees with both the EPA and the State that the Site requires prompt attention. His letter of concurrence states that the OU8 portion of the land is of particular interest to the BLM because a portion of it is located on BLM-managed lands. The State Director's letter of concurrence and the three-party MOU are enclosed with this letter. For more information about the Site and the proposed NPL listing, visit the

EPA's website (<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/current-npl-updates-new-proposed-npl-sites-and-new-npl-sites>).

The agencies expect the listing of the Site to occur before the end of the month. Consultation will be an on-going process. Should you wish to discuss or should you have any questions about three-party MOU or the letter of concurrence, please contact me directly at (775) 885-6151.

Sincerely,

Ralph Thomas
District Manager
Carson City District Office

Enclosures: Three-party MOU
State Director letter of concurrence

cc: Misty Benner – Cultural Resources Committee Chairman
Tad Williams – Environmental Director
Angeles Herrera – Assistant Director/Superfund EPA Region 9
Greg Lovato – Deputy Administrator/NDEP